§ 120.911

- (1) At least 15 percent, if the Borrower (or Operating Company if the Borrower is an Eligible Passive Company) has operated for two years or less;
- (2) At least 15 percent, if the Project involves the acquisition, construction, conversion, or expansion of a limited or single purpose building or structure;
- (3) At least 20 percent, if the Project involves conditions described in paragraphs (a)(1) and (2) of this section; or
- (4) At least 10 percent, in all other circumstances.
- (b) The source of the contribution may be a CDC or any other source except an SBA business loan program (see § 120.913 for SBIC exception).

[64 FR 2118, Jan. 13, 1999]

§120.911 Land contributions.

The Borrower's contribution may be land (including buildings, structures and other site improvements which will be part of the Project Property) previously acquired by the Borrower or the CDC.

§120.912 Borrowed contributions.

The Borrower may borrow its cash contribution from the CDC or a third party. If any of the contribution is borrowed, the interest rate must be reasonable. If the loan is secured by any of the Project assets, the loan must be subordinate to the liens securing the 504 Loan, and the loan may not be repaid at a faster rate than the 504 Loan unless SBA gives prior written approval. A third party lender may not receive voting rights, stock options, or any other actual or potential voting interest in the small business.

§120.913 May an SBIC provide the contribution?

Subject to part 107 of this chapter, SBIC's may provide financing for all or part of the Borrower's contribution to the project. SBA shall consider SBIC funds to be derived from federal sources if the SBIC has leverage (as defined in part 107 of this chapter). If the SBIC does not have leverage, the investment will be considered to be from private funds. SBIC financing must be subordinated to the 504 loan and may not be repaid at a faster rate than the Debenture.

§120.920 Required participation b

the Third Party Lender.

THIRD PARTY LOANS

- (a) Amount of Third Party Loans. A Project financing must include one or more Third Party Loans totaling at least as much as the 504 loan. However, the Third Party Loans must total at least 50 percent of the total cost of the Project if:
- (1) The Borrower (or Operating Company, if the Borrower is an Eligible Passive Company) has operated for two years or less, or
- (2) The Project is for the acquisition, construction, conversion or expansion of a limited or single purpose asset.
- (b) *Third Party Loan collateral*. Third Party Loans usually are collateralized by a first lien on the Project property. The SBA cannot guarantee these loans.

[64 FR 2118, Jan. 13, 1999]

§ 120.921 Terms of Third Party loans.

- (a) Maturity. A Third Party Loan must have a term of at least 7 years when the 504 loan is for a term of 10 years and 10 years when the 504 loan is for 20 years. If there is more than one Third Party Loan, an overall loan maturity must be calculated, taking into account the maturities and amounts of each loan. If there is a balloon payment, it must be justified in the loan report and clearly identified in the Loan Authorization.
- (b) *Interest rates*. Interest rates must be reasonable. SBA must establish and publish in the FEDERAL REGISTER a maximum interest rate for any Third Party Loan from commercial financial institutions. The rate shall remain in effect until changed.
- (c) Other terms. The Third Party Loan must not have any early call feature or contain any demand provisions unless the loan is in default. By participating, a Third Party Loan lender waives, as to the CDC/SBA financing, any provision in its deed of trust, or mortgage, or other documents prohibiting further encumbrances or subordinate debt. In the event of default, the Third Party Lender must give the CDC and SBA written notice of default within 30 days

of the event of default and at least 60 days prior to foreclosure.

- (d) Future advances. The Third Party Loan must not be open-ended. After completion of the Project, the Third Party Lender may not make future advances under the Third Party Loan except expenditures to collect amounts due the Third Party Loan notes, maintain collateral and protect the Third Party Lender's lien position on the Third Party Loan.
- (e) Subordination. The Third Party Lender's lien will be subordinate to the CDC/SBA lien regarding any prepayment penalties, late fees, other default charges, and escalated interest after default due under the Third Party Loan
- (f) Escalation upon default. A Third-Party Lender may not escalate the rate of interest upon default to a rate greater than the maximum rate set forth in paragraph (b) of this section. Regarding any Project that SBA approved after September 30, 1996, SBA will only pay the interest rate on the note in effect before the date of the Borrower's default.

[61 FR 3235, Jan. 31, 1996, as amended at 64 FR 2118, Jan. 13, 1999]

§ 120.922 Pre-existing debt on the Project Property.

In addition to its share of Project cost, a Third-Party Loan may include consolidation of existing debt on the Project Property. The consolidation must not improve the lien position of the Lender on the pre-existing debt, unless the debt is a previous Third-Party Loan.

\$ 120.923 What are the policies on subordination?

- (a) Financing provided by the seller of Project Property must be subordinate to the 504 loan. SBA may waive the subordination requirement if the property is classified as "other real estate owned" by a national bank or other Federally regulated lender and SBA considers the property to be of sufficient value to support the 504 loan.
- (b) A Borrower is eligible for a 504 loan even if part of the Project financing is tax-exempt. SBA's lien position must not be subordinate to loans made

from the proceeds of the tax-exempt obligation.

§ 120.924 Prepayment of subordinate financing.

The Borrower must not prepay any Project financing subordinate to the 504 loan without SBA's prior written consent.

§ 120.925 Preferences.

No Third Party Lender shall establish a Preference.

§ 120.926 Referral fee.

The CDC may receive a referral fee from the Third Party Lender if the CDC secured the lender for the Borrower under a written contract. The Borrower cannot pay this fee. If a CDC charges a referral fee, the CDC will be construed as a Referral Agent under part 103 of this chapter.

504 LOANS AND DEBENTURES

§120.930 Amount.

- (a) Generally, a 504 loan may not exceed 40 percent of total Project cost plus 100 percent of eligible administrative costs. For good cause shown, SBA may authorize an increase in the percentage of Project costs covered up to 50 percent. No more than 50 percent of eligible Project costs can be from Federal sources, whether received directly or indirectly through an intermediary.
- (b) Generally, the minimum 504 loan must be \$50,000, although, upon good cause shown, SBA may permit a 504 loan as small as \$25,000. The amount of the Debenture must equal the amount of the 504 Loan plus administrative costs
- (c) Upon completion of the Project, the Debenture amount will be reduced by the amount that the unused contingency reserve exceeds 2 percent of the anticipated Debenture.

§ 120.931 504 lending limits.

The outstanding balance of all SBA financial assistance to a Borrower and its affiliates under the 504 program covered by this part must not exceed \$750,000 (\$1,000,000 if one or more of the